OCTOBER – NOVEMBER
1969 50 cents

# California GARDEN



*Iceland poppies*

CALIFORNIA'S OWN GARDEN MAGAZINE...PUBLISHED SINCE 1909

# Floral events . . .

Shows in Conference Building, Balboa Park unless listed otherwise.

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION PROGRAMS—Tuesday November 18, **1:00 p.m.** Program will be presented by Finn's Candle Shop. The use of candles for the holidays will be stressed. Flower arrangements using candles will be featured through the courtesy of the Southwestern Judges Council.
Tuesday, December 16—6:00 p.m. Pot luck and song, watch the newsletter for food schedule.

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL Course 4 PALOMAR DISTRICT San Diego Floral Building Registration 8:45, October 28-29, lectures at 9:00 a.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, HORTICULTURE LECTURE by Mrs. Iva Newman, Hillsborough, California. Subject: gerberas, roses, bromeliads and bonsai. Lecture $5.00. Floral Building, 9 a.m.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 29—FLOWER ARRANGING LECTURE & point scoring. Lecture by Mrs. Maude Schildmacher, Tucson, Arizona. Modern Expressive Design and Table Settings. Lecture $5.00. Lunch Daily $1.25. Floral Building, 9 a.m.

SAN DIEGO-IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY—Fall Show November 16, 1969, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Floral Building.

BOTANICAL OPEN HOUSE—San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation, Inc. Floral Building, Balboa Park.
November 2, 1969—Grossmont Garden Club
November 23, 1969—An Econ-Botany Demonstration with Helen Witham.
November 30, 1969—North County Shade Plant Club

CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB—29th Annual Holiday Show and Sale, Rohr Park Manor, 4548 Sweetwater Road, Bonita, Calif. Free. Wednesday, November 19, 11:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. Luncheon (nominal cost).

CROWN GARDEN CLUB OF CORONADO — 10th ANNUAL FALL SHOW—"Fiesta de las Flores"—Salute to the 200th Birthday. Coronado Woman's Clubhouse on Silver Strand November 8th 3-7 p.m. Saturday. November 9th 10:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Sunday.

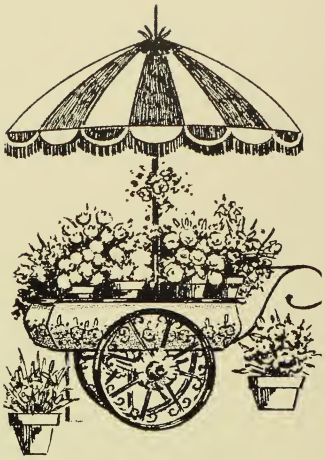
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## *Bus Tours*

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ENSENADA SHOPPING TOUR—Saturday, December 6. We will repeat the November tour (if there is a demand).

*RESERVATIONS may be made by sending check or money order to the San Diego Floral Association one week before the tour. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 10 and 3, telephone 232-5762. Mrs. Donald A. Innis and Mrs. Walter Bunker will also give information.*

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# CALIFORNIA GARDEN

*California's Own Garden Magazine*

October - November, 1969

Vol. 60 No. 5


## THE COVER

Mrs. Eugene Cooper had her camera out again at just the right moment and caught the fragile beauty of a bed of Iceland Poppies. See our article about these plants on page 5.

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CALIFORNIA GARDEN MAGAZINE
SINCE 1909



## CALIFORNIA GARDEN

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## CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLASSIFIED ADS

*(See Page 8)*

# ICELAND POPPY
# (Papaver Nudicaule)

by Lucille Delgado

In recent years several grand strains of the Iceland Poppy have been raised. The flowers show a wider range of coloring than the older kinds and the stems are longer. They make showy groups in the garden and are ideal flowers for cutting for decorative use indoors.

The Iceland Poppy derives its name from its prevalence in the Arctic regions where it thrives. *Papaver Nudicaule* is the name given to the Iceland Poppy and refers to the lack of leaves on the scape, which distinguishes this and the Alpine Poppy from the common corn poppy.

For all its flimsy texture the poppy has flickered through human history like a little flame. Like the flame that warms and burns, it runs to extremes. Unlike its brother, the opium poppy, Nudicaule has brought happiness to man only through contemplation of its beauty. Its satiny, crimpled, parchment-like petals reach up from ten to twenty inches on long, leafless stems from mounds of gray-green lobed leaves which cluster just above the ground. Its petals form a delicate cup which is approximately three inches across.

This short-lived perennial, commonly treated as an annual, comes in a wide range of most delicate colors; cream, buff, pink, apricot, salmon and coral red, as well as the more usual colors of yellow, deep orange and white. Although it is the glory of the Arctic Regions and ranges over immense territory, the Iceland Poppy enjoys a good deal of popularity in California along with the Oriental Poppy. However, it is short-lived here, not because they winterkill as they do back east but because they dislike our long, dry and warm summers.

If treated as biennials, sowing the seed in early autumn, in California, in flats or seed beds under lath with only a sprinkling of sand over them, they will do well in this climate and provide beautiful bouquets for your home. Cut them in the bud early in the morning for best results.

Seeds may also be sown out-of-doors in May and June in a spare border where the soil has been broken down finely with fork or rake; it is necessary to do this because the seeds are very small. They are sown in drills half and inch or so deep and ten inches apart. It is wise to sow the seeds thinly because seedlings should be left undisturbed until autumn when they are planted out where they are to remain and bloom the following year. If crowded in places the seedlings must be thinned out. They can, if necessary, be transplanted though it may be wiser not to disturb them, for they make better progress and develop into finer plants if not moved before autumn.

An alternate method is to sow seeds in small pots in a frame and grow the seedlings in these after thinning them out to one to each pot. Plant them where they are to flower before they become root-bound. In transplanting, unlike most poppies, they readily adapt to the change and can be pricked out about two inches apart before final planting, or if conditions are very favorable, they can go directly into their flowering places. Give them sun and sandy soil in which they will flourish rather than in heavier ones. When using fertilizer, avoid those with much nitrogen as an excess will alter the quality and texture of the plant.

Good results are obtained if plants are spaced six inches or a foot apart for nice beds or border patches. Early autumn sowings will give flowers in spring when moisture conditions are best for them and chewing insects have not yet appeared to deface the flowers. Young plants may be covered with screen to protect from the birds. Depending upon the strain, the fully-matured plant will have up to fifty blooms produced upon it. Pick flowers frequently.

The Iceland Poppy will bloom luxuriantly the year following sowing and will then die out with only a straggler or two coming up the following year. It is best to replant completely after most of the plants die out.

Commercially, seed beds are sterilized with live steam but the same results may be had by placing a pot of earth in the oven for twenty minutes. If chemicals are used, at least two weeks is required for

*Continued, page 34*

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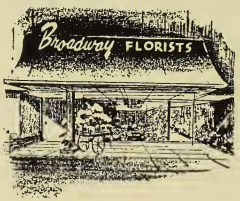
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# *Plant Roses in the Fall*

## *. . . it's easy*

*— from the Fall Rose News, All America Rose Selections*

All-America Rose Selections, noted as a highly experienced group of hybridizers, growers and introducers of fine roses, have long urged gardeners throughout the temperate regions to plant roses in the fall. From their own 24 years of growing experience and their unequaled testing facilities spread throughout the country, the members of AARS long ago learned the advantages of fall planting in all but the more northern areas of the United States.

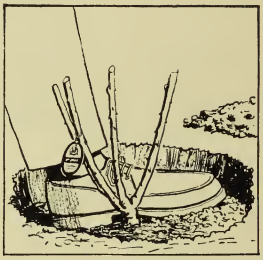
Although rose plants make little or no growth in the fall after they are planted, the ground settles firmly about the roots during the winter and the plants are established and ready to start active growth with the event of warm weather, long before most spring roses are purchased and planted.

Planting roses in the fall is a very easy procedure. Simply carry out the few fundamental practices shown in the accompanying diagrams.

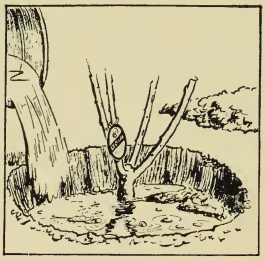
After you have your location chosen and the ground prepared, get your roses, prune all canes back to 18 inches, trim any damaged roots and plant as soon as possible. For roses that will give satisfactory and outstanding performance, choose the All-America award winners, all of which bear the emblem on a green and white identification tag attached to each plant.



1. Prepare and fertilize bed. Dig hole 15″ to 18″ wide and as deep. Add quart of peat moss mixed with 1/2 cup of fertilizer. Mix well with soil. Form a mound in center and position rose on mound.



2. See that roots are spread out naturally and that bud union (swelling at base of stems) is level with ground. Scatter several inches loose soil over roots and firm well with foot.



3. Fill remainder of hole with water and allow to drain. See that the bud union remains at ground level.



4. Fill remainder of hole with soil and tamp. The plant is now ready for the mound of soil which will protect it against rapid freezing and thawing during the winter.

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# Book Reviews

*Interpretive Flower Arrangement,* by Nelda H. Brandenburger. Hearthside Press, Inc., New York, 1969; 157 pages, 98 illustrations (eight repeated in color), $6.95.

Mrs. Brandenburger, a Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judge and member of the Sacramento Arrangers Guild, has written a satisfying book for sophisticated arrangers who plan interpretive expressive work.

Contents include: Part I, Design Elements for Arranger and Exhibitor; Part II, Interpreting the Arts; Part III, Impressions of the World—Seen and Unseen. There are helpful hints for those who write flower show schedules and some words for judges who are urged to keep alert to new trends in flower arrangement and attuned to the exhibitor's ideas.

We are taught how to communicate what we feel — emotions, impressions, sensations—through the sensitive use of the elements of design. An upright line suggests strength and a drooping line, despair; red means danger and black, mourning to all of us. Opening our eyes to the value of texture in telling a story, the author lists 34 plants with suitable adjectives, from the obvious "soft" petunia and "velvety" rose to "warty" gourds.

The author's creations interpret Haiku (Japanese poems about the simple things of nature), Ballet, Music, Sculpture, Seasons and Times and many Moods, Emotions and Feelings. You will find proof that interpretive abstract arrangements are often beautiful and always more creative than arrangements made purely for decorative effect. While those illustrated bear little resemblance to the work of traditional arrangers all adhere to accepted design principle.

We predict that Mrs. Brandenburger's imaginative art and her careful notes on construction will stimulate each reader to try his own hand at interpretive creativity.

*—Dorothy Marx*
*La Jolla, California*

---

Irises, by Harry Randall. Eight full-page color photos, fifty photographs, numerous line drawings. One hundred seventy-six pages. Printed - 1969 in Great Britain. Available from Taplinger Publishing Company, 29 East Tenth Street, New York, N. Y. 10003. $8.95

This book has been written for the use of amateur iris growers. White it contains sections on Siberian, Pacific Coast, Louisiana, and spuria irises, the main emphasis of the book is on bearded irises, particularly tall bearded.

The author, a noted English gardener and a leading figure in the British Iris Society, died prior to publication, so copyright is held by the widow. The preface indicates that the manuscript was not completed when the author died — and that incompleted portions were filled in by wife, daughter, and friends. It is credit to these friends that they have adhered to the writing style of Randall so faithfully that no discontinuities and no patchwork spots are apparent. Regrettably, however, the friends did not do a thorough job of proofreading before publication. As a result, errata slips are entered to correct three statistical errors and to correct two transposed photo captions; some other minor errors remain uncorrected.

The most candid and outspoken chapter in the book is that titled "What Constitutes a Good Iris?" In it, Randall without equivocation prescribes essential requirements of a good iris — to the detriment of many irises which have been represented as being good — but are not.

Randall designates and describes the one hundred irises which he most highly recommends. In making his selections he has used wonderfully astute judgment; his list almost surely is more perceptive than the annual award list or the "popularity poll" or "judges choice" lists of the American Iris Society.

Although Randall is an Englishman, very few irises of English hybridizers appear on his list. Although he grew many of the very latest introductions, he emphatically does not suffer from the common inclination to equate newness and/or price with quality; only half of his favorite irises were introduced during the last eight years. He explains the basis for his judgments. But he himself emphasizes that his selections are based on performance in "the peculiar mixture of weather which we are pleased to call the British climate." He acknowledges that

*Continued page 11*

# Corsages

by Carolyn J. Buman

PHOTOS BY BETTY MACKINTOSH



Corsages of dried materials. Upper, sections of the cottonseed pod, reversed. The other contains balls from the sycamore tree and seed pods from one of the acacias.

Below: fresh flower corsage of dainty pink *Duet*

There are many ways of making a corsage. To learn, try to find someone who knows how to teach you, and if you can't do that, go to the library and check out a book on corsages. Whenever you receive a corsage or see one, look it over carefully to see how it is constructed and if possible, when it is wilted take it apart.

Making a corsage is relatively simple. Once you learn how to wire, tape and tie a bow, all that is left is putting all the elements together. Cut, wire and tape your net, ribbon loops and the accessories that need it, then prepare your flowers.

Your flowers should have been in water at least an hour or longer between cutting from the plant and using. This gives the flowers time to drink their fill of water so as to retain their substance while wearing. With your flowers hardened off, you are ready to put your corsage together. Leave about one half inch of stem only, on all flowers, any more than that will make your corsage too bulky and will probably break off anyway. Next, wire your flowers. Put the wire through the center of the calyx on roses, carnations, daisies, iris and most buds; make a hairpin and put down through the center of chrysanthemums, dahlias, and stephanotis; and through the top of the stem on orchids. Fold the wire down in half, making a hairpin out of it for all flowers. (Don't wind the two strands of wire around each other, ever.) Next, tape the flower. If you are adding net to *each* flower, do it at this time before putting the whole corsage together.

Then put all the elements of the corsage together. Start with your smaller flowers first and as you add each item, tape it to the previous stem. Stagger the flowers so that no two are directly across from each other at the top part of your corsage. It is permissible for them to be across from each other near the base of the corsage. After you have the majority of the flowers in the corsage you add the bow and the last couple of flowers.

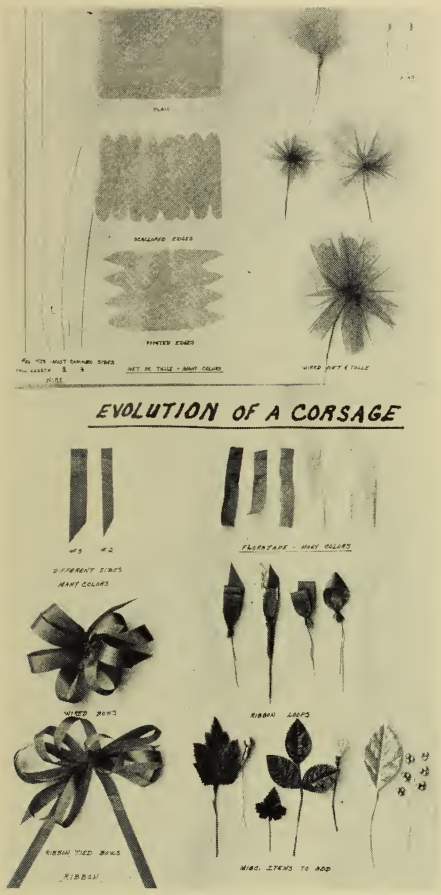
The bow loops should be just big enough to show above the flowers, not overpower them. After all the flowers, net, ribbon and accessories are in the corsage, tape the remaining wire and cover with ribbon. Covering with ribbon is not necessary, but it gives a nice finishing touch. Wind the covered wire around a pencil to give it a curl and the wire can't be seen when worn.

When you are all through putting the corsage together check the placement of all the flowers, ribbon and accessories and make sure you have the effect you want. Next spray the flowers with a very fine spray of water, being careful to shake off the excess water on everything but the flowers. Store the corsage then in a plastic bag or box in the refrigerator for at least an hour if not longer. Take the corsage out of the refrigerator, shake off any excess water, put it on and wear it with pride.

The finished product should be pleasing to the eye. Just about any combination of flowers, colors or accessories is acceptable as long as it isn't gaudy or in questionable taste.

Always remember when wearing a corsage, the flowers are worn the way they






*A chart of corsage materials, prepared by Mrs. Buman*

grow. Flowers generally grow up so wear them that way. As a general rule the bow and the wire end of the corsage is worn at the bottom. About 85 per cent of the people who wear corsages wear them upside down. Do you?

Mechanics count in making corsages. Poor mechanics, like not covering all your wire, blunt ends on ribbon and leaving holes reminds one of a nice-looking woman with her slip showing or her hem torn. Make sure everything is covered that should be. Don't leave gaping holes or spaces in your corsage and make sure ribbon ends are cut on the diagonal.

The supplies used in a corsage are numerous. First and foremost are the flowers you use. These can be fresh, dry or artificial such as plastic or ribbon. Wire comes in many gauges. Numbers 28 and 26 are the most popular. The higher the gauge in number, the thinner the wire. Number 30 is a very light wire and No. 16 a very heavy wire. These are used for single flower stems in arrangements. Wire comes in eighteen inch lengths, but you don't generally use that length unless you are making a wedding bouquet. Normally, you cut the wire in half or in thirds, giving you nine and six inch lengths. You use the nine-inch wire for most flowers and ribbon loops and the six-inch wire for bows and net.

Floratape comes next. This comes in a wide variety of colors and about six shades of green. Green and white are the most popular in use. Try to use the color tape that will complement the flowers you are using. The tape will adhere to itself and either side can be used.

Most all corsages use ribbon. Ribbon comes in all colors imaginable, even variegated. The standard sizes used are No. 3 (⅝″) and No. 2 (⅜″). Narrower or wider ribbons are used, but not as often. An average bow takes approximately one yard of ribbon to make.

Netting comes in just about any color, also silver and gold with different colors. There are two types of netting. Tulle is preferred, and has quite small holes or openings in the thread (1/32″ - 2/32″). Net has large holes or opening in the thread (3/32″ - 4/32″). The netting is cut and wired in various shapes for use in the corsage. *(See illustration.)*

Corsage pins are as important as everything else for they are what holds the corsage to the wearer. The heads of the pins come in many colors in pearlized, metallics and opaques in round and teardrop shapes. Use two pins to each corsage to make sure the corsage will stay on.

There is a large range of accessories that can be used. Colored satin, metallic and velvet leaves, balls, bells, pine cones, rhinestones, pearls, feathers, natural foliage and just about anything else one can think of to use. Save the accessories from old corsages and use them over. It saves you money and nobody can tell the difference.

In using natural foliage, be sure that what you use will not wilt. Never use rose foliage because within an hour or two it will be very limp and start to curl. A good way to determine what you can and can't use, is cut a piece of the foliage you want to use and let it lay for several hours or overnight out of water. If it stands up, use it, if it doesn't, don't. Foliages such as Texas Privet, raphiolepis, leather fern and ivy are all very good to use. Always keep in mind though that the foliage must be mature. Never use tender new foliage as it just won't stand up.

Most all of the supplies that you need can be purchased in a hobby store, but they will be on the expensive side. If possible go to a retail supply house such as Swopes or Dave's Display World in San Diego.

You may have to purchase items in a

*Christmas corsages of small cones, ornaments, metallic leaves and ribbons.*



little bit larger quantity than you wanted, but if you make many corsages, it will pay you to do so. Maybe two or three people can get together and split the amount that comes in a package or roll, thereby achieving a very reasonable cost. For instance, No. 3 ribbon purchased by the yard may cost you five to ten cents per yard and by the 100-yard roll may cost you $1.50, a considerable savings.

Remember that because you purchased something to use in a corsage doesn't mean you can't use it on something else, such as a gift. Corsage ribbon makes excellent ribbon for wrapping packages and is less expensive than regular gift ribbon.

Make a few corsages for fun and practice. You'll pick up the fine points of corsage making automatically and just might add some creative cleverness of your own. The final product will certainly be worth the effort. ■



## *Book Reviews . . . Continued*

other irises might be better performers in warmer and drier climates. (For example, Tom Craig's varieties perform beautifully in southern California's climate — but not so beautifully in England.)

Randall evaluates the contributions of deceased iris hybridizers with candor and fine objectivity — but he abides by a self-imposed rule under which he declines to comment about any living person. Now that he himself is deceased, his own work can be evaluated under his own standards. By those standards — or any other standards — it merits a rating of excellent.

*— Bill Gunther*

■

Using Wayside Plants:
*Nelson Coon, Hearthside Press* 1969

California's wayside plants are so different from those of the Northeastern part of the United States, the area covered by the book, that we can only say that it is interesting to read but not of much practical value to us. And interesting it is: the first half deals with usage of uncultivated plants as foods, dyes, medicinal drugs, material for crafts and games for children, and landscaping; with directions for making such things as bayberry candles, maple sugar, and sassafras tea.

In the second half the 100 plants whose uses have been detailed in the first section are described and illustrated. Included with the descriptive material in each case is a small map indicating distribution by states, to let the reader know where he may expect to find the plants. A handy book to have along with you if you are driving in that part of the country, especially if you are on less traveled roads where you can jog along at your own speed and look at wayside plants.

—H.V.W.

### *Book Reviewers Welcome!*

Please share knowledge of gardening books, new or old, with your gardening friends. The editor will be glad to receive any book reviews.



*This article is dedicated to the preservation of one of San Diego's last remaining open beauty spots — Torrey Pines State Park. We thank the park rangers who so kindly loaned us these pictures for this issue of California Garden.*

*—Editor*

# Torrey Pines Extension Campaign

by Arthur Matula

As any gardener knows, growing things need room to expand.

This is true whether you're growing California redwoods for the expanding building market or geraniums for a dash of color in your patio.

This particular need for natural things for growth has put one of California's most attractive and unusual plants in a dilemma.

The plant is the Torrey Pine (*Pines torreyana*), a rather hardy and beautiful evergreen that has been growing for centuries in the loamy soil of San Diego County.

At present, the best-kept stand of Torrey pines is concentrated in Torrey Pines State Park, an area atop a mesa just north of La Jolla. For thousands of visitors each year, a stop at the State Park is a thrill. The pines grow on a wind-swept mesa overlooking the Pacific. Many families picnic here while listening to the winds whistling through the pine needles.

The torrey pine needs to expand in an area where within a few years or even months, developers' houses will block any means of extending the tree's growing area.

In addition to the State Park, the California Parks and Recreation Department has created a Torrey Pines State Reserve along the stream bed between the torrey pines mesa and the city of Del Mar. The area serves as both a reserve area for the park and a habitat for birds and wildlife.

Nearby is property just perfect for an addition to the Torrey Pines State Park, land needed so that conditions for the continued growth of the trees will not die out.

But it's private property and costly. The State of California has set aside nearly one million dollars, but the remaining sum to purchase the land must come from private sources.

With this in mind, the Torrey Pines Extension Drive was started earlier this year by the Torrey Pines Association, a non-profit organization dedicated to aiding the Torrey Pines State Park. Helping the Association is the San Diego Chapter of the Sierra Club.

At this point, you might well ask: Just what's so all-out important about a

pine tree?

If you saw a torrey pine, your question might well be answered in the negative vein. The torrey pine is not a grand or dramatic tree, nothing as colossal as a redwood and only about one-third as tall as some of its cousins who cling to the sierras, the mountain pines.

The torrey pine rarely grows higher than 30 feet. It sends out a moderate number of well-formed branches. Its needles are from five to 12 inches long, in clusters, and blue-green in color, and they probably make the tree's most striking color feature, especially when seen in the fogs and rain that occasionally envelop their area.

But the torrey pines can only grow in one small particular area of this country, northwestern part of San Diego County; true, the trees also grow on Santa Rosa Island in the Santa Barbara Channel, but for all practical purposes, these are inaccessible.

There is evidence to show that the torrey pines sustained the Indians, who lived in the area for centuries, with firewood. The trees have no other value; in fact, few people burn them for fires. But the trees are old; they've been here for centuries. They are rare, like redwoods. They need to be encouraged to grow because they are part of a huge natural system that cannot stand too much tinkering by man.

Fossil evidence tells us that the pines have been here for a long time. But they have been known to botanists only for a century or so.

They were first catalogued by Dr. Charles Parry, a botanist and geologist with the United States-Mexico boundary survey and who stayed in the San Diego area from about 1850 to 1852. He noted the peculiar characteristics of the tree, realized he had made a discovery and named the species for his former botany instructor, Dr. John Torrey of Columbia University.

Parry, it might be noted, was the first to plead for the conservation of the torrey pines. He visited San Diego again in the 1880's and saw that the strand of pines might be exterminated. His warning led to the founding of a Torrey Pines Preserve, which was eventually turned over to the state in 1954 for maintenance.

The Torrey Pines Extension Campaign has two goals in mind in acquiring the new growing area for the tree. First, and



*Torrey Pines looking toward the northern extension, the area across the salt marsh and at left of photo. The residential development has already reached oceanward toward the grove. If the acreage in question is sold to developers, there is not much doubt that the trees will fall.*



*Borings indicate this tree may date as far back as 1585 A. D.*

*The Ring Bill Gull photographed at Torrey Pines by Ruth Stalnaker*





*Beach Primrose (O. cheiranthifolia)*



*Above:*

*The Great Blue Heron, found in the marsh area in all seasons. A solitary bird with massive wing span. Feeds on small fish and frogs.*

**The Torrey Pines Association . . .**

is a volunteer non-profit citizen group established in 1950. The drive to promote the Torrey Pines Reserve, and the acquisition of the extension is primarily carried on by the association whose concern is to protect and preserve areas of great beauty and scientific interest. The Torrey Pines Association presently is the trustee organization for the fund-raising campaign. Gifts are tax deductible. Any inquiries may be made to the

Torrey Pines Association,
Box 104, 7817 Ivanhoe,
La Jolla, California 92037
Phone 459-7366

foremost, is to provide the sheer space needed to keep the species alive. Secondly, the new acquisition will provide an area for a nature study center, a place where visitors may learn a complete natural history of the area. Right now, the state park quarters are in an ancient (almost antique) crowded building that is picturesque and not modern nor convenient.

Visitors today to the park are knowledgeable and curious. They want to know about the geology, geography, wild plants and wildlife. They won't be able to do this until a nature center is constructed.

Unless the expansion can be made, there is some doubt about the future of the torrey pine. The trees now are concentrated into a small area (about eight square city blocks). Should any natural disaster strike, all might suffer.

So it's a matter of good gardening expansion to propagate the species.

The Torrey Pines Extension Campaign is headquartered in La Jolla and welcomes contributions. It's the only way to keep the Torrey Pines growing. ■

# PLANS LAID FOR THE GROUNDBREAKING IN BALBOA PARK, NOVEMBER 9

## *. . . it'll be a great day — be there for the official start of the construction of San Diego's beautiful new cultural building*

by Joan Betts, President, San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation, Inc.

Sunday, November 9th at 2 p.m., actual ground breaking ceremonies will take place for the replacement cultural building on the site of the old Food and Beverage Building.

The Committee of 100, headed by President Mrs. Frank Evenson, announced at her Board of Directors meeting that her committee is in charge of overall arrangements for this momentous occasion. The Botanical Garden Foundation Board of Trustees and the Foundation Councilors at their September meetings voted to participate in the ceremony with the assistance of the Floral Association. All interested and related botanical-garden-horticultural group representatives are urged to attend and take part on November 9th.

This is the first exciting step toward our long anticipated occupancy in the new building that we will share upon completion with the Civic Arts for Youth and other related cultural groups officially sponsored by the Recreation Department.

Construction of the building will start soon after this event and our enthusiastic attendance in numbers will help to show our acceptance of the new and beautiful building designed by Richard Wheeler, Architect.

Mrs. Ross Pyle is general chairman of the ceremony and she outlined overall plans for the day at her meeting of September 19, which was attended by Mrs. Walter Bunker, Virginia Norell (Editor of CALIFORNIA GARDEN) and myself, representing our interests in the building. At least thirty active and stimulated committee members were present.

Dignitaries headed by Mayor Frank Curran, City Council members, park members and many more have already been invited and will assist in the plaque-hanging as well as groundbreaking that day.

There will be a minimum of speeches while lemonade and cookies are served, military bands will play and antique cars have been invited to add their color to the old-fashioned "Sunday in the Park" event. Over 2,000 parchment certificates will be distributed to all who attend, commemorating the day in our park history.

Speakers' platforms, parking and other details were discussed at this meeting to insure the success of the day as the plans develop in magnitude and support.

The San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation urged the wearing of flowers either from our gardens or those available at the site in a key location. Large identical name tags designating our affiliations will be available at the site. For further color and identification it is urged that fresh-flowered hats be worn.

Please watch local newspapers for more details and do save the date—November 9th at 2 p.m. You'll be glad you came, for a fun-filled memorable afternoon followed by our long-waited start of construction on that beautiful site. ■

## Foundation Meeting Report

THE FIRST MEETING of the '69-70' Board of Trustees was held September 11 at the Floral building. Members now serving the Foundation as officers and trustees are: President, Mrs. William E. Betts, Vice-President, Mr. Larry Sisk; 2nd Vice-President, Mr. Walter Andersen; Secretary, Mrs. Joseph Kenneally; Treasurer, Mr. Sam Hamill.

Other trustees are Mrs. Walter Bunker, Mrs. Everett Henderson, Stanley Miller, Howard Voss, H. M. Chadwell, Edwin Could, Joseph E. Jessop, Mrs. K. T. McReynolds, Mrs. Paul Witham, John Farleigh, Captain Claude V. Hawk, Virgil

Schade and Richard Streeper.

Chairman of Councilors Mr. R. M. Middleton was present and spoke of the success of the "Sundays in the Park," held in the Floral Building this past year, and hosted by representive organizations.

Plans were made concerning our part in the November 9 groundbreaking ceremony in the park described further in this issue of CALIFORNIA GARDEN.

The Trustees also voted to give assistance to the San Diego Rose Society's proposed establishment of a permanent rose garden near the Botanical Lathhouse and the new beds in the park.

The Board of Trustees cordially invite all CALIFORNIA GARDEN subscribers and friends to join the Foundation by mailing their membership checks to Mr. Sam Hamill, Treasurer, Floral Building, Balboa Park, San Diego, California 92101. Memberships are: Annual Member $5.00, Family Membership $7.50; Contributing Member $25.00; Horticultural Society Member $10.00; Sustaining Member $100; Sponsor Member $250; and Organization Member $100. Memberships are tax deductible and we welcome your support as we serve the Foundation together. ■

## SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN FOUNDATION, INC.

**Officers elected July 10, 1969:**

President: ..... **Mrs. Wm. E. Betts, Jr.**

Vice-President: ..... **Mr. Larry L. Sisk**

2nd Vice-President: ..... **Mr. Walter Andersen**

Secretary: ..... **Mrs. Joseph J. Kenneally**

Treasurer: ..... **Mr. Samuel W. Hamill**

### TRUSTEES

**Terms Expiring 1970 — One Year Term**

Betts, Mrs. Wm. E., Jr., 906 El Mac Place, San Diego 92106 ..... **223-7259**
Bunker, Mrs. Walter E., 4721 Bancroft Street, San Diego 92116 ..... **281-5027**
Henderson, J. Everett, 3503 Yosemite, San Diego 92109 ..... **274-1754**
Kenneally, Mrs. Joseph J., 2260 Catalina Blvd., San Diego 92107 ..... **223-6183**
Miller, Stanley W., 1590 E. Chase Ave., El Cajon 92020 ..... **444-8141**
Voss, Howard M., 1290 Birmingham Dr., Encinitas 92024 ..... **753-5415**

**Terms Expiring 1971 — Two Year Term**

Chadwell, H. M., Rt. 1, Box M-32, Del Mar 92014 (32 South Lane) ..... **755-9219**
Gould, Edwin, 7065 Neptune Place, La Jolla 92037 ..... **454-1519**
Jessop, Joseph E., 1041 Fifth Avenue, San Diego 92101 ..... **222-8158**
(414 La Cresentia Dr., San Diego 92106)
Mc Reynolds, Mrs. K. T., Box 111, Del Mar 92014 (655 Zuni Dr.) ..... **755-4047**
Sisk, Larry L., 3179 No. Mountain View Dr, San Diego 92116 ..... **283-2776**
Witham, Mrs. Paul, 5175 68th Street, San Diego 92115 ..... **463-4785**

**Terms Expiring 1972 — Three Year Term**

Andersen, Walter, 4275 Napier Street, San Diego 92110 ..... **276-1142**
Farleigh, John, 2217 Whitman Street, San Diego 92103 ..... **295-5404**
Hamill, Samuel W., 4467 Ampudia Street, San Diego 92103 ..... **296-2605**
Hawk, Capt. Claude V. (Ret.), 1723 Hacienda Place, El Cajon 92020 ..... **448-5168**
Schade, Virgil H., 1633 Pennsylvania, San Diego 92103 ..... **298-1949**
Streeper, Richard, 1333 Wenatchee Ave., El Cajon 92021 ..... **448-0321**



—PHOTO BY BETTY MACKINTOSH

## TRIED OUR BUS TOURS?

***Photo above shows one of the interesting and historic sights in Southern California, the bells of San Juan Capistrano. This was taken during a San Diego Floral Association bus trip in August, 1969, For information on upcoming tours, see page 2 of this issue.***

* * *

### *AN IRISH BLESSING*

*Sure, and may there be a road before you and it bordered with roses, the likes of which have ne'er been smelt or seen before, for the warm fine color and the great sweetness that is on them.*

* * *

*Go make thy garden fair as thou canst,*
*Thou workest never alone;*
*Perchance he whose plot is next to thine*
*Will see it, and mend his own.*

*—Elizabeth Rundel Charles*

* * *

*I am only one,*
*But I am one.*
*I cannot do much,*
*But I can do something*
*What I can do I ought to do*
*And what I ought to do*
*With God's help I will do.*

*—Edward Everett Hale*

# Proteas

## A visit to the Escondido home and growing grounds of Howard Asper

by Virginia Norell



*Protea Latifolia*

You think you might suddenly have been transported to a different land as you wander through the growing grounds at Howard Asper's Escondido home. Here you think you have seen an old friend—an acacia? an oleander?—yet when you are closer to the plant you see to your amazement a strange and wonderful flower here and there, foliage that's very different. Looking about, you see yourself surrounded by plants you have never seen. (Unless you've been doing some botanical exploration in Africa and Australia lately!)

Africa and Australia are the native homes of these exotic plants, the protea family.

Although Mr. Asper, who was head horticulturist at the Huntington Gardens in Pasadena for years, was once primarily interested in camellias, he could not resist the lure of the *proteaceae,* or protea family, and more recently, the banksias of Australia. Mr. Asper still has large greenhouses full of lush camellias, but spends most of his time with the exciting and exotic plants in the field.

Betty Mackintosh and I headed north on Highway 395 one beautiful morning recently and at the Vista and San Marcos highway sign turned right up the gently sloping hill leading to the Asper's home.

Coming up the driveway to the house, we were treated to a sight of two groves of Silver Trees, waving gently in the mild breeze, undergoing chameleon-like changes of color as the long graceful leaves moved to and fro. Silver trees *(Leucadendron argenteum)* are blessed with cones (female trees) which almost appear to have been sprayed with silver. The leaves, of a grayish-green color, are covered with fine, silky, silvery hairs whose reflected light is part of the fascination of watching the wind play among the branches. The trees are small, growing to about 20 or 25 feet, marvelous for a grove along a sloping drive, as Mr. Asper has his. They live approximately 20 to 25 years. Branches of the Silver Tree suit the arranger's most exotic tastes. The beauty of this plant continues as it drops cones from the female tree and pompons from the male tree. When pruned, the cut branches give lovely dried natural specimens for arrangements that will last almost indefinitely. Specimens of *leucadendron argenteum* may also be seen at Quail Gardens in Encinitas. The pod contains as many as 20 seeds. They resemble black beans, and have a sort of parachute which makes it possible for them to be borne on the wind.

Silver Trees are among the most spectacular members of the protea family. They grow in profusion near Capetown in South Africa. (It is amazing how many of the Southern California plants we know so well came from this area; Calla lilies, Clivia, Bird of Paradise are only a few.)

The name "Protea" was given by Linnaeus, the great Swedish botanist, after Proteus, the Greek god of the sea. Linnaeus is thought to have given the name because of the infinite variety of life in the sea, since the proteas come in so many

*Continued*



*Protea nerifolia (Note the leaves— very similar to the oleander)*

*BELOW, and on the opposite page, photos of the SILVER TREE (Leucadendron argenteum)*

*Detail of foliage*



PHOTOS BY BETTY MACKINTOSH



*Left, one of Mr. Asper's groves of Silver Trees shimmers in the light.*

*Leucospermum nutans, the "pincushion" shrub, is beautiful in group plantings. Flowers vary in color from yellow to vivid oranges and reds.*





*Left, the Leucospermum attenuatum with its attractive, long-lasting flowers*

*. . . SILVER TREES*
*Left, the female tree with its silver cone.*





*A flower arranger's delight — the dried blossom of the male Silver Tree*

*(Continued)*

## *Proteas, continued*

forms. These plants thrive in a coastal environment. Mr. Asper mentioned that several visitors from South Africa who have visited him and have seen his plants and their environment here, have said they doubt if the proteas could live in Southern California more than 25 miles inland from the ocean.

The striking flower forms (so different to us they seem to have come from some other planet) measure as much as 12" across. After a plant is started, it takes two or three or perhaps four years to flower—but they are entirely worth waiting for.

*Ed. Note: See "Silver Trees at Quail Park," CALIFORNIA GARDEN, June-July, 1966, by C. I. Jerabek.

Another plant which is a genus of the family protea is the banksia. In Mr. Asper's experimental plot, where he is growing these plants, they upon first observation make you feel that you have wandered into an alien landscape. There is the stimulation of the unknown which may produce wonders before your eyes, in contrast with the old familiar standby plants which are seen everywhere. True, these have their own nostalgic charm. But the world is full of things to discover, and that is the lure for the gardener who toils over his plot of earth with the patience and love to produce a flower that is a little different, a trifle more fragrant, or with better foliage effect in the garden. So Howard Asper has been lured (to our great benefit) to spend his time experimenting and developing those plants which are different and yet can be grown here to good advantage.

Most of the choice flowers of the banksia experimental plot are cut and sent east. The shrubs are ideal as specimen plants in the garden. One of the most interesting Mr. Asper showed is one which grows approximately six feet wide and six feet tall. It typically requires two years of cultivation to reach this size. One of the most interesting features of the many varieties in this genus is the foliage —each variety has foliage of a different type, yet with similar features. Some look like juniper, some almost like podocarpus, and others like holly, very prickly.



**Banksia Media**

The story goes that banksia obtained its name when Captain Cook embarked on his historic voyages and took with him the renowned Sir Joseph Banks, who, in Australia, was so intrigued with these plants that he generously lent them his name.

The proteas are known in their native habitat as the "sugarbush." When the Dutch first went to South Africa, they had no sweetener for their food, but soon discovered that the protea flower, at a certain stage of its development, will yield about a tablespoonful of nectar which can be had by the simple process of tipping the flower over a bucket. There are poems, songs and essays to the glory of the sugarbush in South Africa!

Toward autumn, Mr. Asper collects the dried flowers and pods from the plants, packs them and sends them all over the country. Some of the proteas resemble an artistic form of artichoke. The King Protea, *P. cynaroides,* perhaps the most spectacular flower in the world, may grow to eleven or twelve inches across. Some-



**Paranomus Spicatus**



*Banksia Speciosa*

one once called this a "cross between a daisy and an artichoke." (It's interesting that the artichoke has the botanical name *"Cynara.")*

*Leucospermum,* the "pincushion," is a genus of the protea family that Mr. Asper especially likes. He has two or three large group plantings of these, and feels that they look and do better in groups. They bloom annually, from March through June, and bear as many as 94 flowers on a single shrub! The flowers last up to three or four weeks after cutting. There are four varieties of *leucospermum* growing at Mr. Asper's home. These plants do well on a gentle slope with good drainage and require practically no fertilizing. The fragile-looking flowers have such firm texture and appearance that one lady, seeing the flowers on display at an Escondido exhibition, made the remark, "It's shameful for them to exhibit plastic flowers in a flower show!" Whereupon a friend of Mr. Asper's standing nearby and overhearing, said that of course this was a real flower. "Nonsense!" she retorted, "I know plastic when I see it!"

We suggest that you take a trip to Howard Asper's this next spring for a flight of fantasy that's reality. Flowers and plants that will reveal to you the fantastic variety of living things in the world. There's a hospitable welcome awaiting you just up the hill to the right of the Vista-San Marcos road sign, as you go north on Highway 395. If you get lost, call Mr. Asper at 1-745-7680. He'll be glad to have you come to see these wonders we've been talking about! ■



*Protea obtusifolia produces blooms in red, yellow or pink*



*Telopea speciosissima, red, very large, from Australia*

# *About Camellias*

*Mission Hills Nursery: On Plant Selection*

At the Mission Hills Nursery, Frank Antonicelli, who has a wide selection of camellias will tell you that there is more to plant selection than finding a plant that suits one's fancy. Camellias vary greatly. Almost any camellia will do well in a good potting mix, in a pot, in filtered sun with wind protection and a mild climate. But if one lives in Julian where it snows and temperatures drop or in the Borrego Desert where temperatures are high, special plant selection is necessary for success. Some camellias will take temperatures down to 5°. Others will take full sun except in the desert area. Some plants like a warm summer.

Camellias vary in growth patterns as much as they vary in temperature likes and dislikes. Some plants make good hedges and grow low and bushy, others grow straight and tall, some espalier more readily than others, and some take more kindly to being potted than others. But if a person likes camellias there are plants just for him, just for the spot in the garden he has; and if the one that has struck his fancy won't do in that spot, a wise nurseryman can help him find one that will do that has the same attraction of the one that won't do.

Frank Antonicelli is always happy to look up any camellia in the camellia encyclopedia section of the Sunset book, *"How to Grow and Use Camellias."* Over 700 varieties are listed by color with growth habits noted as well as the special need of each plant as to the amount of sun tolerance and cold resistance.

## Repotting House Plants

The surest way of deciding whether a plant needs a larger pot is by checking the rootball. To do this, hold the hand on the topsoil, with stem between fingers, invert the pot, and give it a sharp rap on a hard object. If the soil is slightly moist the entire rootball will slide out easily. If a complete root network has formed over the ball and is beginning to grow out the sides, the plant needs repotting.

Choose a pot a size or two larger than the old one. It's a good practice to soak new clay pots in water for an hour or so before use. Line the new pot with drainage material — pebbles or broken pot pieces — and then add a thin layer of potting soil.

Now place the rootball on this cushion and fill in with additional potting soil, leaving a half-inch or so between topsoil and the rim of the pot. Firm down the soil gently, thoroughly water, and the plant's new home ought to last for another year or so.

Legginess, lopsidedness, or the presence of dead leaves and branches can be corrected with a cautious pair of scissors. Leggy plants are best renewed by cutting the plant back to within 6 or 8 inches of the topsoil.

*—From Potted Plant Information Center*

### TWO FAVORITE POTTING MIXES TO CONSIDER:

Nurseries vary in recommendations for planter mixes and fertilizers and so do individuals, but all agree that drainage must be good and that any mix should be rich and porous. Here are two more favorite mixes.

**Mission Hills Nursery Mix**

1/3 oak leaf mold
1/3 peat moss
1/3 mixture of equal parts of loam and sand

**Clyde T. Higgins: San Diego Camellia Society Member's Mix**

1/3 peat moss
1/3 ground redwood bark
1/3 loam

## ROSE SYRUP FOR ROSE PETAL COOKIES

Recipe by Jean Hersey

This recipe calls for 1/2 cup of rose water (rose syrup) and Mrs. Hersey tells in her book "The Shape of a Year," published by Charles Scribner's sons, just how easily rose syrup is made.

She advises the use of half a dozen fragrant red roses that you are sure have no spray residue. Take off the petals and cut off the slightly bitter tasting base of each. Simmer the petals, covered, for about 1/2 hour in a small amount of water and a 1/2 cup of brown sugar. Strained, the result will make 1 1/2 tall glasses of fluid that looks like wine and tastes the way roses smell. Now you are ready for the cookies.

**ROSE PETAL COOKIES**

Mix 2 cups of brown sugar with 1 1/2 cups soft butter. Add 1 pinch of salt and 1/2 teaspoon of nutmeg. Add another 1/2 cup of soft butter and mix well.

Beat 3 eggs thoroughly and add 1/2 cup rose syrup. Stir this into the first mixture and add 2 cups of white flour and 2 cups of whole wheat flour. Roll on a well floured board quite thin and cut into rounds with a 3-inch diameter cookie cutter. Cook in an oven at about 300 degrees for 15 minutes or until golden brown. Watch carefully, as they have a tendency to burn.

This recipe makes dozens! and they will keep all summer and longer in the freezer.

Use deep red roses for syrup and the most fragrant ones you have. This gives the cookies a slightly pink cast. The flavor is subtle, but delicious. Can be made partly with honey and less sugar. This is something you must experiment with. They are really very good and an old English idea — that of using roses in cookies.

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This beautiful stand of Eucalyptus trees, shown at best advantage silhouetted against the sky, was probably planted about 1900 — the family who planted them long since gone. Betty Mackintosh couldn't resist capturing the sight with her camera, and shared the picture with us.

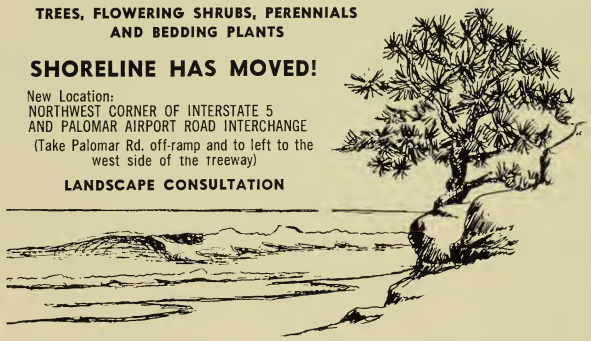

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# THE LATH HOUSE

With the coming of this month of October the lath house faces a condition when its inhabitants are likely to sigh for warmer and dryer situations with less rheumatism in the air. If rains succeed one another with any regularity a state of damp ensues that lasts for months. In view of this eventuality the lath house should be carefully culled over and its plants divested of every superfluous leaf and branch and in overgrown spots some dug up altogether. Air must be made to circulate freely. Plants that have thriven during the summer in complete shade and will dwindle and fade away under the same conditions in winter. Bearing this in mind the lath house attendant will easily discern what to do. Keep up the watering of violets and ferns, but let the tuberous begonias dry off so that the tubers may mature. Though these tubers have passed the winter successfully in the ground, the majority rot. The operation of preparing them for winter storing is much easier when they are grown in pots, and the writer has had the best success with them planted thus and the pots plunged in the earth.

Cuttings of coleus should be made to be carried through the winter in the house. They thrive in a window if carefully watered and the mealy bug is subdued. A soft paint brush and strong soap suds are most effective agents against mealy bugs, but the application is tedious.

Few bulbs do very well under lath, an exception being the so-called large snowdrop. In fact it is quite a question whether a top that could be removed would not be a good innovation, and would be easily made where lath houses are moderate in size. Of course, this would debar growing things over the top, but this should not be done anyway. A combination of lath sides and strong muslin roof would make this uncovering easy, and would probably admit of a greater range in the varieties of plants grown inside. CALIFORNIA GARDEN would be interested to have one of its readers try this experiment and report the results.

The GARDEN hears that Dr. Francis Mead is making an experiment with orchids under lath. If any one can make a success of innovations in floriculture, it is this gentleman. May his orchids take their place among his grateful patients.

—CALIFORNIA GARDEN, *October, 1910*

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*Brownies in southeast San Diego learn appreciation of nature through the marvel of a "growing thing."*

# *Gardening in natural environment or in their own backyards—learned by San Diego Girl Scouts*

by Donna Greenlaw

GIRL SCOUTS in desolate wooded areas on a nature badge or in a garden admiring flowers feel just as much at home as they would in a kitchen earning a homemaking badge.

San Diego area girls accomplished many outdoor tasks during the past year, whether it be helping a garden club or planting trees for the future and their efforts were certainly noticed!

Claire Ackerman, Mary Dee Beattie, Christine Botti and Mary Ann McNichols, senior scouts from Troop 812 in Julian accompanied by Mrs. Dee Beattie and William Swadley a fire prevention technician, ventured out to Indian Flats Federal Forestry, a national park, nine miles north of Warner Hot Springs with 49 Coulter pine trees.

The girls spent the night at the site in order to complete their planting the next morning. Rain fell twice during the night while a surprise thunderstorm hit the next day. An unlucky situation prevailed as a happy one for the task of obtaining water from a well five miles away for tree watering was shortened considerably!

Junior Troop 99 (which is now 187) from Pacific Beach was so involved in gardening that they earned the name "Junior Gardeners" and have been sponsored by the Pacific Beach Garden Club.

Their projects included planting iceplant along Mission Bay to combat erosion, cleanup projects, flower arranging, planting herbs for outdoor cookouts and planting dish gardens for their "Green Thumb" badge.

Their efforts and new knowledge paid dividends in the spring as they won second place in Junior Club competition at California Garden Clubs State Convention.

Knowledge of nature is more than work and rain as campers and outdoor lovers will verify.

It could be saving small children a few tears by supplying name tags at flower shows, it might even be feeling like "rich ladies" while gathering orchids for spring bouquets as Junior Troop 1016 of Chula Vista did during a visit to Ridgeway Orchid Gardens in National City.

It may even be astonishment that the "red" orchid is really painted and that flowers can be painted with floral paint sprays.

Whatever it is, scouting and nature are fun, ask any Girl Scout! ■


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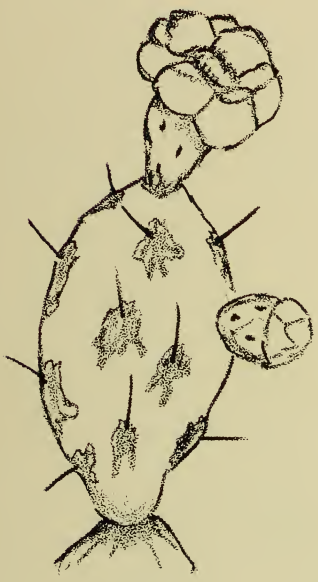
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# SUCCULENTS OF THE SEASON



*Joseph's Coat*
*(Opuntia vulgaris variegata)*

JOSEPH'S COAT is a cactus of doubtful name, scientifically. Some authorities and the trade calls it OPUNTIA VULGARIS VARIEGATA.

(o-pun'-ti-a or oh-pun'-shi-ah vul-gar'-us var'-i-a-ga'-ta) but other authorities say that is a mistake and the plant is really OPUNTIA MONOACANTHA VARIEGATA (mon'-o-a-can'-tha). From the descriptions I would go along with the second naming. The cactus is readily recognized from its common name as it refers to the mixture of colors in the pad which are white or yellow and pink mixed with the green background.

This cactus is the subgenus PLATYOPUNTIA, meaning it has flat pads. The genus name is derived from Opuntiani, the people who lived in the ancient city of Opus, Greece, where the true OPUNTIA VULGARIS became naturalized. VULGARIS means, loosely, heavily spined and monoacantha means one-spined. Since Joseph's Coat is usually one-spined in the body of the pad, I would tend to accept O. Monoacantha Variegata as the correct species.

The plant will grow to five feet tall and eventually develops a sturdy trunk. The areoles are fairly far apart on the pads and there is usually a single spine from each. Young pads may have up to three spines per areole. It will grow under varying conditions so long as the soil drains readily. Joseph's Coat grows fast from single pad cuttings and will do so under cramped conditions. It blooms rather young and has a yellow flower followed by a red fruit.

The colors in the plant are apparently at their most intense in full sun to light shade, although some plants color very nicely in heavier shade. It can be fairly spectacular and many people will want it as a focal point among their normally green collection.

*(By L. N. Phelps)*



*Echeveria Gibbiflora*

## ECHEVERIA GIBBIFLORA

PRONUNCIATION is given three ways: esh-eve-EE-ria, ech-e-VEER-i-a and ek-e-VEE-ree-ah but the plant is definitely named for D. Atansio Echeverria the Mexican botanical artist who did the illustration for FLORA MEXICANA 1858. Gibbiflora (jibbi-FLO-ra) means having flowers with a swelling or hump on one side. So you don't have to look that up in your Funk and Wagnalls.

Broadly spatulate leaves are rounded above, keeled below, from five to ten inches long and half as wide, gray-blue in color with pink undertones. The reddish urn-shaped flowers are borne on scapes up to twenty inches long in a one-sided cluster. E. Gibbiflora is one of the largest of the heavy stemmed, branching types.

The variety METALLICA naturally possesses a conspicuous metallic sheen which can be a gorgeous sight to behold when after years of regular care it reaches two to three feet with a bonus of scarlet flowers. The leaves are rounded at the apex and are a soft pinkish bronze with white and red along the margins. (Color description by Chidamian) Let's hope someone brings such a beauty to share visually for it sounds fantastic!

Variety CARUNCULATA has curiously puckered, blister-like growths on the leaf surface, more curious than appealing. Offsets are rarely produced but flower stems can be used for cuttings, allowing several leaves for each cutting and much patience. (Butterfield in the Jan-Feb. 1958 NATIONAL JOURNAL has more to say that I can condense. So does the leading authority Eric Walther in the Mar-Apr. issue of the same year.)

Variety CRISPATA has crinkled leaf margins with plantlets sometimes forming on the flower stalks.

Echeveria Gibbiflora hybridizes easily in nature and for man and many named hybrids are available from Henrietta's Nursery in Fresno, California. All the varieties make splendid houseplants and coloring is more vivid when grown out in the open. As they seem to be especially susceptible to root nematodes, it is well to investigate the roots if the plants seem to be gradually weakening. If you spot any knot-like swellings—OFF with the roots including the base of the stem, then re-root. Start with healthy plants in equal

parts sandy loam, well-rotted leafmold and good sharp sand, providing good drainage and protection from frost.

In order to retain the large cabbage type rosette, it is well to keep the flowering stalks pinched out—if one has the heart to do it. Since there are so many varieties within the species, all of which are eligible for the bragging table, we should have a great selection of handsome plants. ■

*(Nibby)*


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PHOTO BY BETTY MACKINTOSH

*Nature's Wonders:*

*Milkweed*

* * *

*All that we are is the result of what we have thought; it is founded on our thoughts, it is made up of our thought. If a man speaks or acts with a pure thought, happiness follows him like a shadow that never leaves him.*

*—Buddha*


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# Calendar of Care

*This is the gospel of labor,*
*Ring it, ye bells of the kirk,*
*The Lord of love came down from above*
*To live with men who work.*

*This is the ROSE HE planted,*
*Here in the thorn-cursed soil;*
*Heaven is blessed with perfect rest,*
*But the blessing of earth is toil.*

*—Henry vanDyke*

## PLANTS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT

by George James
Garden Care Feature Writer

THE PAST INSTALLMENTS have dealt with the environmental needs of plants as they were related to soil, and some suggestions have been given for soil improvement and the preparation of planting holes.

All through the previous articles the need of drainage in the soil has been stressed. Irrigation of plants can be performed in such a manner that the problem of drainage, where it exists, is not so likely to damage the plants. Plants which are growing in compact soils, where the drainage is poor, are more likely to suffer from over-irrigation than under-irrigation.

There are several factors which influence the need for irrigation, or which may make the need more or less at one time or one place than at another time or in another place.

Irrigation is necessary in this area because of the relatively arid conditions which exist, and because of the diverse water needs of the plants we use. Nearly all of the plants used in gardens in this area grew as native or wild plants in some other part of the world, where the rainfall might have been either greater, or more consistent than here.

If these plants are to grow well here, the gardener must supply them with an irrigation program that is close to the rainfall they received in their native environments.

Some plants will not tolerate over-watering to the slightest degree, while other kinds of plants stand a soil that stays moist nearly all the time.

### *Study Water Needs*

It is wise for a gardener to study the water needs of his plants before he places them in his garden, and plant those with similar water needs in one area, and those with greatly different needs in another, so each group may be treated according to their needs. Another factor which influences the frequency and duration of irrigations is the soil in which the plants are growing.

### *Watering Clay or Adobe*

Clay or adobe soils retain water much longer than sandy soils, so as a rule clays or adobes can be irrigated less frequently than sands, and this holds true where the subsoil is clay or adobe with a layer of sand or loam above. Clay and similar soils not only hold water for a longer time, but they also take in water very slowly, and are most effectively wet by applying water as a fine spray for short periods of time. Water is applied until it starts to puddle or run away, then the water is turned off, or the sprinkled moved to another location, then after the excess water at the surface has soaked into the soil, more can be applied, and this process repeated several times until the soil is wet to the desired depth.

### *Watering Sandy-Loamy Types*

Sand and loam soils, with their large soil pores, permit irrigation water to soak in more quickly, so water may be applied faster and for longer periods without excess collecting on the surface. These soils do not retain the water as long as the clay soils, so will need more frequent irrigations. The addition of humus to any of these soils will improve their ability to accept and to hold water. Humus particles will increase the size of the soil pores in the clay. This increases the rate at which the water can penetrate, and will partially fill the large pore spaces in sand. Thus they may retain water in

larger amounts for a longer period of time.

### *Influence of the Seasons*

The seasons of the year have an influence on the amount of water needed by plants. When the weather it hot, windy, if the humidity is low, or even when any combinations of these conditions occur, the amount of water used by plants can be doubled. During such periods extra irrigations may be called for. At least, overhead sprinklings may be needed to prevent damage to plants from shortage of water. Overhead sprinklings, sometimes referred to as "misting," provides free water on the surface of the soil, on the leaves, and other areas around the plant. This water evaporates, increasing the humidity around the plant, so the plant is not forced to discharge as much water into the air as it would if the humidity were lower. As a result of this, the soil will not dry out as quickly, and there is less effort required on the part of the plant.

During the spring and fall seasons when the days are shorter and the temperatures less, the water needs of the plants are reduced. Santa Ana weather conditions do occur in the fall, and the watering program must be adjusted to compensate for the excessive water demand these conditions create.

The days are shorter and the temperatures lower during our winter months, so the plants water needs at this time are the lowest. Our rains are not to be relied upon, but when they do come the need of further irrigation for some time following is eliminated.

### *Rainwater Helps*

The pure rainwater does much to move the accumulated alkali salts downward in the soil, often below the root zone, so alkali is less of a problem following winters of normal or greater than normal rainfall. Plants which can be easily damaged by too much water, especially those in clay or abobe soils, can be protected from too much water in the rainy season by removing basins which would hold water close to the plant. If basins are leveled and the soil close to the stem of the plant made a fraction of an inch higher than the surrounding soil, the excess water will flow away from the plant and be less likely to wet the soil in the root zone to the degree that the roots of the plant will be damaged. This operation should be completed prior to the first rain, for some plants can be seriously damaged by even one super-soaking.

### *Effect of Planting Pattern*

The size and the concentration of the plants, or roots of plants, in a given area can influence the amount of water needed to maintain soil moisture suitable for good growth. Small, young plants, have fewer leaves than older, more mature plants. Thus, their water needs are less at this time, but will increase as they become larger and develop more leaves. Sometimes roots of trees have grown into an area, removing a great deal of water from the soil. This makes longer and more frequent waterings of such areas necessary. Roots of large trees can extend for great distances from the tree itself. Roots of trees planted in parkways have been found in back yards, and large trees on the other side of the neighbor's garden may have their roots in your rose bed.

### *Invading Roots*

Areas which seem to dry out quickly may be suspect of having invading roots in them, one answer to such a problem is to irrigate and fertilize enough to satisfy the needs of all the roots in the bed. Garden areas situated at the edge of a slope planted to iceplant will often have a strip of the garden parallel to the iceplant where the growth of the plants or lawn is less than at other places in the garden. Iceplant deprives other plants of a good part of their food and water.

### *What Time of Day?*

The question of what time of day is the best to irrigate is often asked. There are some advantages to both day and night irrigation which are not too important when compared to the convenience of the person doing the watering.

There are many automatically controlled sprinkler systems which operate at night and usually no ill results are seen. The advantages to night irrigation are: less water loss through evaporation; higher water pressure, which gives better sprinkler coverage; less wind, which permits a more even distribution of water; and in the case of public recreational areas, night watering permits greater daytime use of the area.

The greatest disadvantage to night watering is the encouragement of diseases on plants that are susceptible. Roses and some ornamental shrubs are subject to mildew, the growth of which is encouraged when the leaves remain wet overnight. Fine grass and dichondra lawns are subject to disease problems when they consistently remain wet overnight. Fortunately, the hardy bermuda grass which is found in so many lawns, and many of the shrubs we use, do not suffer from diseases so can be watered at night without problems.

The best irrigation practices are those which provide enough water for the plants, yet not too much, and wet the soil deeply so the development of deeper roots is encouraged. As a general rule, deep, less frequent waterings are better for plants than frequent shallow waterings.

Frequent waterings tend to keep the upper pores of the soil full of water which prevents the free flow of air to the lower levels, which can cause the start of root damage and the resulting weakening of the plants. Like all good rules, there are some exceptions to this one, one being the case of newly-planted annuals or other small plants, which will have very limited root systems at the start. In warm weather, these may need to be watered once a day or more until a better root system is developed. Then the frequency of waterings should be reduced gradually until the plants are being watered every five to seven days.

Frequent waterings when continued for a long period of time cause the plants to develop the greater part of their roots close to the surface of the soil. Plants with shallow root systems are more easily tipped over by wind or accumulation of water on their foliage, and are less able to cope with hot, dry, or windy weather.

Shallow waterings tend to cause the accumulation of alkali salts close to the soil surface, while deeper waterings are likely to carry these salts lower into the soil, where they may be less of a problem. Shallow roots of plants are more likely to disrupt pavement and are more competitive with the roots of smaller plants in the same area.

Trees or shrubs which are planted in lawn or ground cover areas, where shallow irrigation is adequate for the needs of the small plants, will be benefited with a deep irrigation every three to four weeks which will encourage the roots of the shrubs and trees to develop deep into the soil.

When one becomes aware of all the factors which affect the plants' need for water and the desirability of watering

deep enough for the proper root development of the plants being grown, and how much these factors can change from one garden to another, the wisdom of each gardener establishing his own garden irrigation program, based on the needs that exist in his garden, can be seen.

### *Check the Water Penetration*

A desirable irrigation program, one that meets the plants water needs without overdoing it, is easier to establish if the gardener has some way of knowing how moist the soil is and how deeply the recent irrigation penetrated. A probe, which may be an iron rod or a long screwdriver, can be used to decide whether it is time for another irrigation, and to find out how deeply the soil was wet. When checking to see if it is time to irrigate again, the probe will meet resistance three to four inches below the surface of the soil, and the day after irrigation the depth of the penetration of the water can be felt by pushing the probe down until it meets resistance from the dry subsoil below. With very little practice you can quickly get an idea of the moisture in the soil, enabling you to irrigate intelligently. A hole may be dug, where possible, with a trowel or shovel which will reveal the same conditions as the probe will, and there are meters available which will immediately reveal whether a soil is dry, moist, or wet. Any of these methods will be a great help to a gardener in the establishment of his irrigation program, providing him with facts and not guesses upon which to base his practices. These methods may also be used once a program has been established to be sure the program is still meeting the needs of the plants involved, and also used in periods of great heat, wind, or of low humidity, to determine additional applications of water are needed.

Some other guides to the frequency of watering, which may be helpful in establishing your irrigation program will be told in the next installment. ■

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# DAHLIAS

*by Larry Sisk,*
*San Diego County Dahlia Society*

The easiest way to get knowledge is to learn by doing. That's especially true about gardening, raising dahlias or whatever one chooses.

The garden is an excellent classroom, and the student should pay attention.

For example, it was only after years of planting small dahlias close together—because they are small—that it was realized that for the best small dahlias they should be planted at distances apart equal or even more than the larger varieties.

Even if the gardener raises dahlias just for the color in the yard or for cutting to take in the house, it's a good idea to give each plant plenty of room to spread out.

The object with small dahlias is to grow them small, and the way to keep them small is to pinch out the growing tips two, three or more times. This makes the plant bush out, and as it spreads it should have room. Otherwise, by midseason the plant will be such a tangle of branches that its source for flowers will be almost valueless.

Proper spacing is especially needed if the poms and miniatures are being grown for exhibition; thus, as the plant spreads there will be room to put in more stakes and to tie up the branches to keep flowering stems straight. The extra space also makes insect and mildew control easier.

In planning next year's dahlia planting, a minimum of 30 to 36 inches square should be allowed for each hill—for either small or large variety. Dahlias grown in rows should be about 36 inches apart; the rows can be 20 to 24 inches apart if wide paths are provided between each two rows. The paths are ideal at 44 to 48 inch widths.

The value of tying each cane of the larger varieties is another lesson learned in the dahlia garden classroom. Otherwise, succeeding crops of blooms will bend and crawl to the ground, producing such crooked stems that even the most adept arranger would be baffled. Heavy blooms and summer breezes also call for staking and tying, to prevent losing the flowers.

Other lessons learned include: Failure to spray to prevent insects will result in infestations that sometimes are hard to overcome; failure to water properly (when the plants need water) results in a decline in plant growth; failure to fertilize results in small and poor blooms; overfertilizing with high-nitrogen fertilizer will produce lots of bush, rubbery stems, and not so many flowers.

At this time of the year, the dahlia "student" should be ready to graduate if he paid attention, and next year's efforts will be much improved.

# FUCHSIAS

by Morrison W. Doty
San Diego Fuchsia Society

FORTUNATE fuchsia fanciers in southern California can enjoy balmy Indian Summer in their gardens much longer than other locations, with occasional repeats even in midwinter, although without the brilliant autumn colors Easterners love so much.

However, certain extremes of temperature and humidity during such beautiful weather, and perhaps winds, may present real problems to the new gardener here. Occasionally dry hot days, between quite cool, damp, foggy nights, may even kill container plants. Before you know it they're too dry, unless watered every day. Some of the hottest days of the year may come in October, unexpectedly.

Having the growth cycle of a deciduous shrub, fuchsias normally need their rest period in winter. Like many other plants, though, they may be made or allowed to bloom out of season in our mild Southern California climate. We should reduce gradually the feeding and watering as autumn advances, to induce the natural dormancy that is essential for good plants next year. Older plants may languish and die if carried on blooming too long. They should be retired earlier than fresh vigorous young plants, which may be fed and watered to bloom even into holiday season.

Bushes and plants in the ground in this area need little extra care in autumn, except perhaps some mulching in very cold, exposed places, and whatever fall pruning is decided upon. Baskets and container plants, however (more and more seen in most gardens here), do need more care now. Containers should be repaired if needed, new soil added sometimes, and perhaps placed in a protected warmer nook for winter. Winds are bad for fuchsias, any time.

Discreet fall pruning is now generally advocated. Some successful growers, even nurserymen, prefer most of it then, rather than all in the spring, claiming less danger of frost-kill or die-back. The tendency of fuchsias, especially old ones, to grow tall and straggly late in the season, perhaps with foliage only at the tips, makes us glad to trim and shape them up then to their proper type again. They will stand cutting back at least two-thirds, or even to the first two or three nodes of new growth if necessary, for shaping back to their type, provided they're well cared for afterwards. Old, tired plants need rest by late summer, and young, vigorous ones to be carried on in bloom later, should not be fed for too much lush growth late enough to be killed by frost. Basket and container plants may do well on only enough watering to feel dry under the surface, and liquid fish-based feedings perhaps only three or four weeks apart, through their dormancy now.

When pruning fuchsias, either fall or spring, keep in mind always which of the main four types it best conforms to. Shape it so, then pinch tips to maintain conformation as it thickens up in growth to a perfect plant. Bush types in the ground may be left high, of tall varieties for background, with low growing ones for foreground or border, but all cut far back, for abundant bloom is always on the new growth. They withstand more cutting than plants in containers. Basket plants, trailing, or semi-trailing should have uprights, weak and cross growth cut, and trimmed about to con-

*Continued, page 34*

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*Grow old along with me!*
*The best is yet to be;*
*The last of life, for which the first was made;*
*Our times are in His hand who saith,*
*"A whole I planned;*
*Youth shows but half; trust God,*
*See all, nor be afraid!"*

*—Robert Browning from Rabbi Ben Ezra*

* * *

*There is always room for beauty memory*
*A myriad lovely blossoms may enclose.*
*But whate're hath been, there still must be*
*Room for another rose.*

*—Frances Earle Coate*

* * *

*"The greatest ideal that man can aspire to is not to be a show case of virtue, but just a genial likeable and reasonable human being."*

*—Lin Yutang*

# ROSES

by Richard D. Streeper,
President, San Diego Rose Society

THIS IS ONE of the very best times of the year for roses. The plants are growing much more slowly now than in the spring and summer. Blooms should hold their form and color very nicely on the bush. There is little to do other than to relax and enjoy your success as a rose grower.

This is also one of the very best times of the year for *Sphaerotheca pannosa.* This is that common plant which all of us seem to cultivate in our rose gardens. For those less botanically inclined, let's refer to it as rose mildew or powdery mildew. This is a good time of year to learn more about the nature of rose mildew and attempt to put some of this knowledge to use in our garden.

Rose mildew is a fungus. For our purposes, we may assume that it exists only on roses. Other types of mildew found in the garden on chrysanthemums, calendulas and zinnias, to name a few, will not affect roses. Two types of spores are produced by the fungi. The first type, called conidiospores, grows best in San Diego in the late spring, up until the heat of summer, and in the late fall. This type of spore grows in a chain-like formation over the surface of the rose leaf with a powder-like appearance, from which comes its common name. When the spores have developed in sufficient number they can be easily dislodged and can continue to grow if they land on another rose leaf. The spores send tiny tubes into the rose leaf to support their life and in this way can permanently damage the leaf surface.

The second type of spore is produced in the late fall and winter months. These are called ascospores and they are associated with the overwintering of mildew. The ascospores will remain dormant until the spring at which time they infect the new rose growth. It should be noted that the conidiospores also have the ability of overwintering in the growth buds of the rose.

Most rose growers are aware that mildew grows well at certain times of the year, sometimes in spite of our efforts to eradicate it. At other times of the year, it grows not at all, even in the absence of any preventive spray program. Mildew requires humidity of 90-95 percent to grow. The humidity at the leaf surface is commonly very much higher than that in the air in the garden. The humidity on the leaf surface is a function of the general humidity in the air, the moisture in the plant, the solar radiation on the leaf surface and air circulation.

One last bit of technical information and then we will try to put some of this information to use. Susceptibility to mildew is an inherited factor in roses. Many types of roses will not support ascospores. A lesser number are inhospitable to conidiospores. There is a broad range of susceptibility within those cultivars which are susceptible to mildew.

The first step to avoid mildew can be taken in the planting plan for your garden. Try to keep leaf humidity as low as possible at all times. In this regard, full sun in the morning and evening is desirable. Plant roses where they will get good air circulation. If you can't avoid shade or still air, then you might be more satisfied if you choose cultivars which have a high degree of mildew resistance. There are several good hybrid teas and floribundas which are completely free of mildew in San Diego and great improvements are being made by plant hybridizers in new roses being introduced in commerce. If you have problem plants or problem areas, space the plants farther apart or thin the center of the plant during the spring and fall to increase sunlight on the leaves and air through the plant.

Conidiospores can be washed from the

## SHARE YOUR FLOWER AND PLANT IDEAS!

We welcome readers' contributions. If you have an idea for an article you'd like to write, phone the editor, who will be glad to assist you with it. Or, pass on those handy tips we all enjoy running onto; write a letter to the editor if you have something to say that you think our readers would like to hear. We enjoy hearing from you, and welcome new contributors. Write or phone: Mrs. Virginia Norell, Editor, CALIFORNIA GARDEN magazine, 9173 Overton Avenue, San Diego, California 92123. 277-8893. Copy is due 30 days before publication. (Tenth of January, March, May, July, September, November.)

rose leaves until such time as they become firmly attached. Thus, frequent washing with water constitutes a good method of control provided no major infestation is present. Clean foliage also reduces the ability of drifting spores to attach themselves to the leaves. In this regard, an overhead sprinkling system may have much to commend it with regard to the control of mildew.

As indicated earlier in this article, fall is a very important time of the year for one who would control mildew in his garden the following year. If all spores were killed or removed from the garden as they appear, there will be little mildew the following spring. A regular spray program should be established and any leaves which are significantly infested should be removed from the yard. During the winter when you are pruning and applying dormant spray, remember that conidiospore mycelium may be lurking in the new growth buds and ascospores on the wood or in the ground, so try to get good spray coverage with a strong fungicide.

Perhaps the greatest problems in controlling mildew is that of getting good spray coverage when applying chemicals to prevent or eradicate mildew. Most sprays which are sold to control mildew will kill the mildew within a very few minutes and success or failure should be apparent by simple visual examination. However, in Southern California we have a special problem with our water and many of the sprays which are not made specially for use here do not work satisfactorily unless a wetting agent is used. To determine if your spraying technique is adequate examine your bushes immediately after applying the spray and insure that all of the surfaces of even the most remote leaves have been completely wetted. Then examine any mildew on the plant about ten minutes or so after spraying, when the spray has dried. If the mildew does not appear to be matted and gray, either the wetting agent has not permitted penetration of the fungicide through the fungus, or the concentration of spray was not as directed on the label. With careful experimentation, you will be able to come up with the right combination of wetting agent and fungicide and even the most severe infestation of mildew should be capable of elimination with no more than three applications of fungicide at five-day intervals. ■

### *A DAY OF ROSES*

*In the wind of sunny June*
*Thrives the red rose crop,*
*Every day fresh blossoms blow*
*While the first leaves drop;*
*White rose and yellow rose*
*And moss-rose choice to find,*
*And the cottage cabbage rose*
*Not one whit behind.*

*—Christina Rossetti*

*It isn't so much the way things are*
*As the way we look at a thing.*
*There's always the notes of a*
*merry song*
*For the voice that is ready to sing.*
*And "Roses have thorns" is a*
*stupid cry,*
*For though it may all be so,*
*I think we had better be telling*
*the world*
*That thorns have roses, you know.*

*—F. J. Boyce*

*Every rose on a little tree*
*Is making a different face at me!*
*Some look surprised when I pass by,*
*And others droop—but they are shy.*
*These two whose heads together press*
*Tell secrets I could not even guess.*
*Some have their heads thrown*
*back to sing,*
*And all other buds are listening.*
*I wonder if the gardener knows,*
*Or if he calls each just a Rose.*

*—Rachel Field*

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### *Iceland Poppies, Continued*

the poisons to leach away and leave the soil safe for seedlings.

When the Iceland Poppy is planted in combination with Blue Flax (Linum perenne) its exquisite colors and delicate beauty will be enhanced. If scattered blooms are desired throughout the season do not allow the seed pods to develop.

The Iceland Poppy has been favored by many well-known California garden enthusiasts who have developed various strains in the garden by root division method.

These lovely, fragrant, nodding blooms will captivate those with the most discriminating tastes, today, as they did in the past. This Iceland Poppy is truly a California favorite.

The following varieties are in the trade: Album, Aurantiacum, Coccineum, Croceum, Striatum, and Sulphureum.

---

***PRAYER FOR A LITTLE GARDEN***

*God of all gardens*
*Please remember mine*
*With rain to comfort it*
*And a sun to shine,*

*With a hope for every seed,*
*With patience that will wait,*
*And love to keep the border clean*
*And the furrows straight.*

*God of all the gardens*
*That lie from sea to sea,*
*Let this one bloom, with faithfulness*
*For sharing it with me.*

*—From the Herbalist*
*by Arthur Ketchum.*

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### *Fuchsias, Continued*

tainer edge; then good care afterwards.

Tree types, from good vigorous upright varieties, are best supported very straightly up to the desired height before the tip is touched; then rub off the side buds below, and pinch to thicken up the head growth round and full.

Espaliers, of delicate, fine growing varieties are maintained with less drastic pruning after their main design is established. Excess side growth is cut if it is diverting too much strength from the plant, and its main laterals.

Any pruning time makes cuttings of some favorite varieties we would like to propagate more plants from, and although spring is best for that, some growers start lots of cuttings in late summer and fall also.

Cut with sharp shears vigorous new tip growth about three inches long, press down firmly into sharp, moist sand, or vermiculite, in starting flat, or better, tiny plastic plant cups, and place in a warm, protected nook with filtered sun. In about three weeks plants should be ready to transplant, in good weather. This is a good time to browse the nurseries for some holiday gifts of plants that may give pleasure longer than most other gifts,



perhaps, to some of your friends, or even yourself.

Our little exotic tropical rain-forest plant is an excellent choice for such an unusual gift. There are so many (actually over 3000 name varieties) both new and old to charm any gardener.

This area is fortunate in having fine fuchsia nurseries. Some are worthy of tourist interest in beauty and scope. The *200th Anniversary* of San Diego, now being celebrated here, is fittingly remembered in the striking new fuchsia hybrid which develops rich, variegated Spanish colors. ■

* * *

*Gather ye rose buds while ye may,*
*Old Time is still a-flying,*
*And this same flower, that smiles today*
*To-morrow will be dying.*

*—Robert Herrick*

## Frost Warnings Available

San Diego County farmers can avail themselves of frost warning broadcasts through the courtesy of a number of local radio stations, James M. Moon, San Diego County Agricultural Commissioner announced recently.

Walt Hattman, Meteorologist, U.S. Weather Bureau, takes climatic readings from several county weather stations, and the predicted temperature and dew point readings for various county growing areas are broadcast daily.

Forecasts may be heard locally over KUDE, Oceanside, 1320 k.c., at 7:10 p.m.; KOWN, Escondido, 1450 k.c., at 7:05 p.m.; KOGO, San Diego, 600 k.c., at 7:25 p.m.; KARL-FM, Carlsbad, 95.9 m.g., at 7:10 p.m.; and KMLO, Vista, 1000 k.c., will give a preliminary forecast at 4:40 p.m.

Broadcasts will start November 15th and will continue through February 15, 1970. This service is provided for the San Diego County agricultural industry jointly by the United States Weather Bureau and the San Diego County Department of Agriculture. ■

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## GARDEN NOTES

Many odd and rare plants are difficult to find in catalogs. Try growing them from seed. The seed exchanges of A.H.S., American Rock Garden Soc., American Primrose Soc. and North American Lily Society offer many unusual seeds. So does the Royal Horticultural Society of England. Since germination of many of these seeds is often slow, sow out doors as soon as received in winter or early spring. Some may not come up until well into summer. And a few as *Hellebores* and *Viburnums* may wait over for at least a full year. Be patient and use long lasting labels.

It's fun to have a few plants that puzzle most gardeners, a sort of horticultural conceit remover. We all get an occasional such person in our gardens. *Tricyrtis* will slow down many of them. I find *T. hirta* most showy with its September blooms. If it does not germinate the first time try sowing some more the following year.

The old-fashioned mole plant, *Euphorbia lathyrus,* is another one few recognize. It is an evergreen biennial. Try shearing it first summer for a low evergreen hedge. When allowed to bloom it has a fascinating way of coming up in most unexpected places around the garden. Will get four feet tall if left alone.

*—Gardeners Forum* ■

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4349 Florida St., S.D. 92104

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(Rancho Bernardo) 487-1150

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1255 Cynthia Lane, Carlsbad 92008

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14767 Fruitvale Rd. Valley Center 92082

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655 Bradford Rd., El Cajon 92020

**ESCONDIDO GARDEN CLUB**
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Mrs. Charles Younger 746-5109
368 Eldorado Drive Escondido 92025

**FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB**
Last Thursday, Fallbrook Woman's Clubhouse, 1:30 p.m.
Pres.: Mrs. Clair Acker 728-2341
1061 Riverview Dr. Fallbrook 92028
V-Pres.: Mrs. Blanche Griset
769 Knoll Park Lane Fallbrook 92028 728-2394

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Mrs. L. Fred Will
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Santee 92071

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(Garden Section)
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3850 Quarry Rd., La Mesa

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2327 33rd Street, San Diego 92104 284-4449

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1221 San Julian Dr., San Marcos 92069

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V-Pres.: Mrs. Winifred Posik
723 E St. Ramona 92065 789-0531

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245 Yacon Circle, Vista 92083

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